## HOUSE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING MANDATORY KINDERGARTEN.

WHEREAS, kindergarten serves an important transitional function, as kindergarteners are expected to learn basic academic and social skills that prepare them for the demands of first grade and beyond; and

WHEREAS, kindergarten is a critical part of creating a literate, productive workforce and ensuring that all children have access to opportunities that will help them to achieve their goals in life; and

WHEREAS, while most children are enrolled in kindergarten, some families do not feel compelled to send their children to school on a consistent basis because kindergarten is not mandatory; and

WHEREAS, without the skills that can be gained through a kindergarten experience, children are placed in a position where they may fall behind their peers in first grade; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that this body strongly supports the establishment of mandatory kindergarten, as well as the provision of adequate funding by the State, to ensure that kindergarten education is available to all five-year old children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 0 5 2014

HR LRB 14-1866.doc